



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 7**

11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

Mr. Chris Dunker
Lincoln Journal Star
2207 Lake Street
Lincoln, NE, 68502

**Freedom of Information Act Request
Number: EPA-2021-006415**

Dear Mr. Dunker:

This is an interim response to your September 7, 2021, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. In your request you seek:

“Date Range (February 23, 2021-September 7, 2021); Communications (Correspondence with state, Correspondence from the EPA to NE partners and correspondence to EPA related to AltEn site, Including role with state and EPA); Communications should focus on state of Nebraska's engagement with EPA with respect to AltEn site; Communications (Correspondence between EPA and NDEE); Request can EXCLUDE biweekly meeting reminders/emails; Search term keywords (Pesticide, treated seed, ground water, AltEn).”

On September 16, 2021, Angela Stillwagon and Kasey Barton with Region 7 Office of Regional Counsel called to speak with you about your request. As indicated in 40 C.F.R. § 2.102(c), you discussed specific information about the records you seek and provided additional details about your request. During the call you confirmed you would like external correspondence from the EPA to Nebraska only. Additionally, EPA Region 7 discussed the release of potentially responsive documents could reasonably be expected to harm pending or prospective enforcement proceedings. You confirmed you would like to proceed with your request understanding the possibility certain documents may not be released. Any records related to potential pesticide contamination of groundwater, surface water, and soil at AltEn, LLC, in Mead, Nebraska between Jan. 1, 2010 and receipt of this request.

You may log in to FOIAonline and retrieve your records for your request.

This is an interim response to your overall request. Any withheld logs of exempt information and a disposition letter with your appeal rights and instructions for submitting an appeal will be provided to you at the final disposition of your request. Your rights to appeal the withholding of any information that you requested will be explained in our final response letter. If you have any questions regarding this interim response, please contact Angela Stillwagon (913-551-7707) in our Office of Regional Counsel.

Additionally, you may seek dispute resolution services from EPA's FOIA Public Liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or 202-566-1667, or from the Office of Government Information Services. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways: by mail, Office of Government Information Services,



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National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8610 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740; email, ogis@nara.gov; telephone, 301-837-1996 or 877-684-6448; or fax, 301-837-0348.

If you have questions regarding this response, please contact Edie Stevens-Breckon, our FOIA Officer, at 913-551-7803.

Sincerely,

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HUMPHREY

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LESLIE HUMPHREY
Date: 2021.12.17
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Leslie Humphrey
Regional Counsel